

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00

SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 SCS-03 FBO-02 SCCT-01 AID-05

CCO-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02 NIC-01 NSC-05 SP-02

OC-05 OPR-02 PA-01 USSS-00 PRS-01 SCA-01 A-01 OMB-01

SS-15 SY-05 OPIC-03 /081 W
----- 123561

Z 111423Z MAR 75

FM AMEMBASSY LISBON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC FLASH 2008

C O N F I D E N T I A L LISBON 1321

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: MILI, PINT, PO

SUBJECT: POSSIBLE COUP ATTEMPT

SITREP NO. 6 AS OF 3:00 P.M. LOCAL

1. MILITARY SITUATION:

RADIO STATION READ STATEMENT FROM PRIME MINISTER AT 2:45 P.M. LOCAL THAT A SMALL GROUP OF REACTIONARIES ATTEMPTED COUP AND SITUATION UNDER CONTROL. HE ASKED POPULACE TO BE CALM. COMMUNIST LEADER CUNHAL HAD SPOKEN EARLIER AT 2:33 P.M. SAYING THE REACTIONARY FORCES WOULD SOON BE BEATEN IN THEIR ATTEMPT AT A COUP.

EMBOFF AT AIRPORT REPORTS THAT TWELVE WERE WOUNDED IN ATTACK ON RAL-1. REMAINDER OF DEFENDERS TOTALLING ABOUT 200 THEN RAN OUT AND TOOK REFUGE IN NEARBY APARTMENT COMPLEX. EMBOFF UNDERSTANDS THAT THEY ARE BEING JOINED BY MRPP AND LUAR TYPES, SOME OF WHOM HAVE WEAPONS. THE TWO HELICOPTERS AND TWO T-6S ARE APPARENTLY BEING OBSERVED BY F-86S, WHICH MAY OR MAY NOT BE WITH THE COUP GROUP.

EMBOFF PASSED BY BELEM PRESIDENTIAL PALACE AND SEVENTH CAVALRY HEADQUARTERS AT BELEM AND NOTED THAT GATE WAS OPEN
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AND EVERYTHING APPEARED NORMAL.

EMBOFF AT AIRPORT UNDERSTANDS FROM MILITARY THAT THERE IS SOME SORT OF ACTIVITY AT AMADORA COMMANDO GARRISON. HE ALSO HEARD THAT COPCON TANKS MAY BE USED TO ATTACK PARACHUTISTS. AT 2:00 P.M. COPCON HEADQUARTERS IN RESTELO WAS STRAFFED BY TWO JETS.

2. SITUATION IN CITY:

LISBON REMAINS CALM WITH TRAFFIC MOVING AND PEOPLE IN STREETS. NO AIRCRAFT HAVE BEEN SEEN OVER CITY FOR LAST HALF HOUR. WE HAVE REPORTS THAT LEAFLETS ARE BEING PASSED OUT TELLING UNION MEMBERS TO GO TO THEIR HEADQUARTERS.

3. EMBASSY HAS EXCUSED ALL NON-ESSENTIAL EMPLOYEES AND IS ADVISING RESIDENT AMCITS TO REMAIN AT HOME. POLICE WHO NORMALLY GUARD CHANCERY LEFT POSTS AT ABOUT 2:30 P.M. TAKING ALL NECESSARY PRECAUTIONS.
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Message Attributes

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

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Status: NATIVE
Subject: POSSIBLE COUP ATTEMPT SITREP NO. 6 AS OF 3:00 P.M. LOCAL
TAGS: MILI, PINT, PO
To: STATE
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